

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EUR-12 MC-02 EB-07 AID-05

IGA-01 OMB-01 H-02 /076 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:RWSMITH:RG

APPROVED BY PM/SAS:DJJAMES

NEA/IRN - MR. MORTON

NEA/PAB - MR. PECK

L/PM - MR. BOREK

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R 102033Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 162433

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IR, PK, IN

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF TANKS TO PAKISTAN

REF: TEHRAN 6233

1. PROPOSED IRANIAN TRANSFER OF 12 M-47 TANKS TO PAKISTAN REPORTED REFTEL RAISES QUESTIONS THAT WE BELIEVE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN VIEW OF US LEGAL REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THIRD-PARTY TRANSFERS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND KEEN INTEREST BY CONGRESS IN OUR IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSFER PROCEDURES (CONTAINED STATE 252945 OF NOV 15, 1974). KEY QUESTION IS WHETHER IRANIAN PERSONNEL WILL CONTINUE TO EXERCISE CONTROL OF TANKS IN PAKISTAN OR SIMPLY DELIVER THEM AND RETURN TO IRAN. LATTER CASE WOULD CONSTITUTE THIRD-PARTY TRANSFER DESPITE INTENT BY GOP TO RETURN TANKS TO IRAN. STANDARD TRANSFER ASSURANCES REQUESTED BY USG
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(AS CONTAINED, FOR EXAMPLE, IN STATE 222253 OF OCT 9, 1974)

COVER TRANSFERS BY "SALE, LEASE, RELEASE, ASSIGNMENT,
LOAN, CONVEYANCE, OR ANY OTHER MEANS".

2. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT LENGTH OF TIME THAT TANKS
WOULD LIKELY REMAIN IN PAKISTAN. IF THEY ARE TO STAY FOR
EXTENDED PERIOD DURING RETRO-FITTING OF PAKISTANI TANKS
IN IRAN, WHICH WILL TAKE SEVERAL YEARS TO COMPLETE, IT
WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY SUCH STAY AS TRAINING
EXERCISE.

3. WE HAVE NO SUBSTANTIVE PROBLEMS WITH CONCEPT OF 12
IRANIAN M-47 TANKS UNDER OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF GOI
PERSONNEL BEING USED IN PAKISTAN FOR JOINT TRAINING
EXERCISE OF NORMAL DURATION. IF TANKS ARE TO BE UNDER
PAKISTANI CONTROL, DEPARTMENT WILL NEED FULL EXPLANATION
OF TERMS AND REASONS FOR TRANSFER TO ASSIST IN DECISION
WHETHER TO APPROVE EXCHANGE. HOWEVER, IT MUST BE ONE
OR THE OTHER, WITH ALL US LEGAL REQUIREMENTS MET, IN
ORDER TO AVOID CONTROVERSY HERE.

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS ON
ABOVE POINTS. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE162433
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RWSMITH:RG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750239-0842
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750767/aaaaciq.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TEHRAN 6233
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRANSFER OF TANKS TO PAKISTAN
TAGS: MASS, IR, PK, IN
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006